

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

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P 050835Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6579

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 10309

PASS BEIRNE, AFL-CIO, AAFLI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT OF INTUC PRESIDENT B. BHAGAVATI TO US

1. IN HIS CAPACITY OF CHAIRMAN OF THE AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CWA PRESIDENT JOSEPH BEIRNE, DURING HIS AUGUST 19-21 VISIT TO NEW DELHI ORALLY EXTENDED AN OPEN-END INVITATION TO INTUC PRESIDENT B. BHAGAVATI TO VISIT THE US AS GUEST OF THE AFL-CIO. I.E., EITHER AT THE FORTHCOMING AFL-CIO CONVENTION OR AT ANOTHER TIME IF MORE CONVENIENT.

2. IN RESPONSE BHAGAVATI HAS NOW REQUESTED US TO INFORM MR. BEIRNE AND THE AFL-CIO THAT HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO ATTEND THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION AND POSSIBLY TOUR THE US AFTERWARDS TO MAKE CONTACT AND EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH US LABOR LEADERS. HE STATES HOWEVER, HE WOULD NEED WRITTEN COMMUNICATION FROM MR. BEIRNE OR PRESIDENT MEANY.

3. BHAGAVATI HAS BEEN TO THE US PREVIOUSLY ON A BRIEF VISIT SOME YEARS AGO AS A MEMBER OF AN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION DELEGATION. IN ADDITION TO BEING INTUC PRESIDENT HE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE UPPER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT (RAJYA SABHA) AND THE CONGRESS PARTY WORKING (EXECUTIVE) COMMITTEE.

4. AT THIS POINT BHAGAVATI DOES NOT KNOW PRECISELY HOW LONG
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HE CAN REMAIN IN THE US SAYING IT WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT

AFTER HE RECEIVED THE INVITATION. HE ALSO STATES THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THAT IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO GET MUCH PERSONAL ATTENTION IF HE ATTENDED THE CONVENTION (WHICH WOULD BE WARRANTED IN THE LIGHT OF HIS POSITION IN INDIA S WELL AS THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS HIS VISIT WOULD HAVE FOR EXPANDING INDO-U.S. LABOR RELATIONS). ALTHOUGH HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION HE SAYS HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO FOREGO IT FOR A TIME MORE CONVENIENT TO AFL-CIO LEADERS.

5. IF AN INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO BHAGAVATI AN OPEN ENDED INVITATION TO HMS TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION OR VISIT THE US SEPARATELY AT CONVENTION TIME TO CONTINUE THE US-INDO LABOR DIALOGUE WOULD BE CALLED FOR. AN INVITATION TO HMS, AS WITH PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE AFL-CIO, SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY, MAHESH DESAI INVITING HIM OR HIS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE. THE INVITATION TO BHAGAVATI WOULD BE ONLY FOR HIM PERSONALLY, AS PRESIDENT OF INTUC.

6. AAFLI REPRESENTATIVE MUTH NOW IN DELHI AWARE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE AND INFORMING PALADINO.

7. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST RE POSSIBLE AFL-CIO ACTION WITH INFO TO BOMBAY.
MOYNIHAN

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